Dr. A. G. Menon.—"*The insistent exercise of monopoly by the Government on teak has been causing great hardship to the landholders and discouraging the plantation of teak and this Council requests the Government to remove all restrictions regarding the possession and enjoyment of such trees, by abolishing the monopoly*".

15. Non-officials in the Darbar list.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I move that "*this Council recommends to the Government to include the names of oll non-official Members of the Legislative Council in the Darbar list.*"

ഈ പ്രമേയം ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു വളരെ വ്യസനമുണ്ട്. മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടതന്നെ ഈ സഭ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഒരു ഭാഗമാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ഈ കാര്യം മറന്നുകാണുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ വ്യസനിക്കുന്നു. കുറച്ചുമുമ്പു ഈ പ്രമേയത്തിലെ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ചിലകാര്യങ്ങളം ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ ആ ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു തരിയായസമാധാനം കിട്ടിയിട്ടില്ല. ആളുകളുടെ പേരുകൾ ഡർബാർ ലിസ്റ്റിൽ ഇഷ്ടംപോലെ ചേർക്കയൊ തള്ളിക്കളയുകയൊ ചെയ്യാമെന്നാണ് അപ്പോൾ പറഞ്ഞത്. ഇതു തീരെ ന്യായമില്ലാത്തതാണ്. മദ്രാസ് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിലും ഇന്ത്യാഗവമ്മെണ്ടിലും നിയമസഭാ മെമ്പർമാർക്കു പല പ്രത്യേക അവകാശങ്ങളും കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതൊന്നും നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിട്ടില്ലെന്നുണ്ടൊ? എന്റെ അപേക്ഷയനുസരിച്ചു ഡർബാർ ലിസ്റ്റിലെ പേരുകൾ അന്നു മേശപ്പുറത്തു വെച്ചിട്ടുകൂടിയില്ല. ലിസ്റ്റിൽ അവണ്ണാഹിന്തുക്കളുടെ പേരുകൾ കാണുമൊ എന്നു സംശയമാണ്. ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽതന്നെ ഒന്നു രണ്ടെണ്ണത്തിലധികം കാണുകയില്ല.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is no such list here.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—ലിസ്റ്റ് ഉണ്ടൊ ഇല്ലയൊയെന്നുള്ള സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റിയല്ല ഞാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നത്. ഡർബാറിലേക്കു നിയമസഭയിലെ അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥ മെമ്പർമാരേയും ക്ഷണിച്ചുകൊള്ളണം. ഒരു ലിസ്റ്റ് കൂടി വെയ്ക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കാതിരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം അത്രകുഴപ്പത്തിലാണ് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ സ്ഥിതിയെന്നു ഞാൻ ഇപ്പോഴെ അറിഞ്ഞുള്ളു. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇനിയെങ്കിലും വേണ്ടത പ്രവൃത്തിക്കേണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It may not be possible now to invite for Darbars all persons who may hold the same status as the officials. Formerly the Darbars used to be held in the Darbar Hall at Ernakulam and a very large number of persons —as many as could be accommodated there—used to be invited

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Now-a-days you all know that the Darbars are held in the Hill Palace and that there is not enough space there to accommodate very many persons. It is on this account that we do not invite all the Members of this House to Darbars generally and not with any intent to slight them. The Member may rest assured that we will invite as many persons as can be accommodated there conveniently.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—When you invite one non-official and omit another non-official, what is the difference?

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—The public will think that you are making a distinction.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—My information is that Members at Ernakulam are generally invited.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is no permanent Darbar list maintained by the Government. For the occasion invitations are sent up for men of recognised position, both official and non-official Members. So far as the Members of this House are concerned, Government is aware of their status and will only be too glad to show the recognition of their status. As far as I know, the difficulty is with regard to accommodation. I suppose that you all know the fact that in recent times the Darbar used to be held in the Darbar Hall of the Hill Palace. There the accommodation is very limited and perhaps invitations may have been restricted according to the exigencies of the occasion. But it is purely on the ground of accommodation that all Members are not invited. Government will only be too pleased to invite men of recognised status. Sir, it is a matter I think you will entirely leave to the Government I would only once more say that there is no permanent list and that the list is made for the occasion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to support this resolution for the reasons that the Government have given certain expressions which I regret very much. The Government have expressed their views here, through the Diwan Peishkar and the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, and it is also true that both of them have spoken well. But, I would have preferred the Secretary to the Diwan to speak in this matter, to give a proper view of the Government. However, it is a sad thing and it reflects upon the ability and capacity of the present Government to say that you have no capacity to make even a Darbar list! I submit with an internal knowledge of the Darbar for the last 25 years that there have been Darbar lists in the Cochin State. I may also say that I am well acquainted with the extent and practices of the State than the Hon'ble the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. I may tell him that the Darbar in Cochin in the olden days was a very close business. At first Government

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used to invite only a few recognised officials of the State, and a few Europeans living across the border, in British Cochin, who are also Members of the Cochin Club.

Deputy President.—That was years ago.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That was then the Darbar list. Subsequently during the Diwanship of Sir. A. R. Banerji the list was changed. I had the honour to make that list change. I was the President of the Mattancheri Town Council and one of those who were not invited for a Darbar. I then brought this fact to the notice of the Government and at once the Government included the Municipal Councillors as well as the Presidents of the said Councils in the Darbar list. Subsequently, the Government found out that some of the Councillors happened to be their own District Registrars drawing a salary of Rs. 35 and Rs. 40. Then the Government issued an order that only such of the members of the Town Councils, who are non-officials, will be invited to the Darbars. Things went on like that for some time, and it was all right. It is only recently, I have heard you say that unfortunately the question is of accommodation. Sir, it is true that many persons will have to gather there. We all understand that. But do you think, Sir, that we would inconvenience our own beloved Maharaja ? Certainly not. How was it, Sir, that so many of us were provided with suitable accommodation on the opening of the Legislative Council at the Hill Palace ? What is the meaning in saying that the Hon'ble Members of this House cannot find enough accommodation in the Hill Palace ? Are there no spacious halls there ? We would be even satisfied to stand behind our beloved Maharaja and adore His Highness as the representatives of the people of our State. The Legislative Council Members of every State and every Government in India have an honoured position. They form part and parcel of the Government in the land, and as such they are inseparable from the Government. Wherever the Government is, the Legislative Council must be represented there. In Madras the Legislative Council Members have a place immediately after the very big Executive Council Members They even come above the Government officials. It is not wise to say that there is no sufficient accommodation for all the Members of this Council in the Darbars.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is only a subsidiary argument.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is your main argument then ? Now, Sir, what did you do, when the Nawab of Banganapalle came on a vist to this State ? There was a party held and it is a social function at the cost of the Government. If it is a social

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function at the cost of Dr. Verghese, we would not have put such a question. It was at the cost of the State to which I contribute and to which all Members of this Council and their constituencies contribute that the party was held. The thing is that you want to make yourselves important and make us unimportant. Self-respect is the first respect of every man. I had also tabled a similar resolution on social functions, and I withdrew my resolution because I knew that this was coming up for discussion. Why was the name of the Chief Justice of Cochin excluded from the last dinner which was held at Bolghatty? Well, Government did not choose to answer it. I do not care if the name of the Chief Justice is included or not. Government are only slighting their own Chief Justice! I would not have spoken so much, if it is not a matter which concerns our own self-respect. With these words I whole-heartedly support this resolution.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, I object to the words being used that the Government themselves slighted their own Chief Justice.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We bring all these matters in the Legislative Council so that the Government may deal with the matter in all its gravity.

The House rose for the day, it being 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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